

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01
AF-08 EA-07 NEA-10 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01
TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02 /133 W
-----150144Z 045916 /60

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FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2174

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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ACTION STR

H PASS CODEL

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD; MTN

SUBJ: MEETING OF GROUP NON-TARIFF MEASURES, JAN 13, 1977

REF: A. MTN GENEVA 163, B. 76 MTN GENEVA 9648, C. STATE 7424

1. SUMMARY: NTM PARENT GROUP MEETING TOOK PLACE ACCORDING
TO SCENARIO AGREED UPON IN 7 PLUS 7 MEETING (REF A). PARENT
GROUP ACCEPTED LANGUAGE OF US/EC SCENARIO ON NON-TARIFF
MEASURES NOT DEALT WITH MULTILATERALLY AND REACHED AGREEMENT FOR
UNDERTAKING BY THE SECRETARIAT OF A LIMITED WORK PROGRAM
TO INCLUDE NON-TARIFF MEASURES IN THE TARIFF RATE INFORMATION
FILE. DESPITE STRONG LDC PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE
ACTION, PARENT GROUP AGREED TO REVERT TO QUESTION OF ESTABLISHMENT
OF AN ANTIDUMPING SUBGROUP AT NEXT MEETING.
END SUMMARY.

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2. NON-TARIFF MEASURES NOT DEALT WITH MULTILATERALLY
(NTM/NDWM): PROCEDURES FOR NTM/NDWM (REF B) WERE GENERALLY
ACCEPTABLE TO ALL DELEGATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH US/EC
SCENARIO. ARGENTINE DEL (RAIMONDI), HOWEVER, UNEXPECTEDLY
AND UNEXPLAINABLY INSISTED ON SEVERAL WORD CHANGES
TO TEXT. ECUADOR DEL (WASHINGTON HERRERA), SPEAKING FOR

ANDEAN GROUP THEN SUGGESTED STRONGER TEXT CONCERNING PRIORITY ATTENTION TO BE GIVEN NTM/NDWM OF INTEREST TO LDC'S. AFTER MUCH ACRIMONIOUS DISCUSSION, TWO CHANGES TO TEXT WERE MADE. IN FIRST SENTENCE OF THIRD PARAGRAPH OF TEXT, THE WORDS "AS EXPORTING OR IMPORTING COUNTRIES" WERE DELETED. THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH FOUR OF TEXT WAS CHANGED BY DELETING "ON THE BASIS OF" AND INSERTING IN LIEU THEREOF "TAKING INTO ACCOUNT". SO CHANGED, TEXT WAS AGREED UPON.

3. ANTIDUMPING: AT REQUEST OF NTM PARENT GRUP CHAIRMAN (MATHUR), ANTIDUMPING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN (EGGERT) EXPLAINED WORK OF AD COMMITTEE IN PREPARING AN ANALYTICAL INVENTORY OF PROBLEMS AND ISSUES UNDER THE AD CODE AND INVITED NON-ADHERENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN FEBRUARY 21 SPECIAL AD COMMITTEE MEETING. LDC'S LED BY EYGPITIAN DEL AND INDIAN DEL STRONGLY REJECTED FEASIBILITY AND LEGALITY OF NEGOTIATING AD CODE CHANGES IN THE AD COMMITTEE. LDC ARGUMENTS CENTERED ON 1) INABILITY OF WORKING PARTY IN AD COMMITTEE TO REACH ANY CONCLUSIONS IN THIS AREA IN 6 YEARS OF CONSIDERATION AND (2) THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE AD CODE WHICH ALLEGEDLY GIVE THE AD COMMITTEE AUTHORITY TO EXAMINE ACTIONS TAKEN ONLY BY CODE ADHERENTS UNDER THE CODE AND PRECLUDE NEGOTIATION OF CHANGES TO THE CODE. THIS POSITION WAS USPPORTED BY ARGENTINA, PAKISTAN, ISRAEL, MEXICO, ROMANIA, TURKEY, MALAYSIA AND THE ANDEAN GROUP. THE EC (LUYTEN) AND JAPAN (TERADA) INDICATED THEY WANTED TO REFLECT ON THIS MATTER IN LIGHT OF LDC STATEMENTS AND FEBRUARY 21 AD COMMITTEE MEETING. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NORDIC COUNTRIES (EGGERT) INDICATED THEY WERE NOT OPPOSED TO ESTABLISHING A SUBGROUP AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME. U.S. DEL (NEWKIRK) MADE ONLY FIRM STATEMENT OPPOSING EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF AD SUBGROUP IN FAVOR OF CURRENT WORK PROGRAM OF ANTIDUMPING COMMITTEE. COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF GROWING AND ORGANIZED PRESSURE FROM LDC'S TO ESTABLISH ANTIDUMPING SUBGROUP, WEAKENING OF DC SUPPORT FOR AVOIDING SUCH A SUBGROUP AND POSSIBLE COMPLETION OF AD COMMITTEE REVIEW THIS SPRING, U.S. WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER WHAT POSITION TO TAKE AT THE NEXT MEETING TO PROTECT OUR INTERESTS ON THIS ISSUE. END COMMENT.

4. TRIF: DISCUSSION ON ADDING NTM INFORMATION TO THE TARIFF RATE INFORMATION FILE WENT LARGELY AS AGREED UPON IN 7 PLUS 7 MEETING (PARA 5 OF REF A). LANGUAGE IN U.S./EC SCENARIO APPEARS IN CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING-UP. IN REGARD TO THE WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN, THE SUMMING-UP STATES THAT THE SECRETARIAT INITIALLY WILL RECORD ALL NTM'S IN GATT INVENTORIES (BOTH AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY) IDENTIFIED

AT THE FOUR DIGIT BTN LEVEL AND ALSO THOSE NTM'S WHERE THE PRODUCT DESCRIPTION IS SUFFICIENT TO IDENTIFY THE FOUR DIGIT CATEGORY. ALSO, WHERE THE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE, NTM'S WILL BE RECORDED AT THE LINE ITEM LEVEL. THE JAPANESE DEL AGREED GENERALLY WITH THIS PROCESS BUT MAINTAINED RESERVATION ABOUT THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROJECT AND MADE CLEAR THAT THIS PROJECT SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE FUTURE DEFINITIONS OF NTM'S. SURPRISINGLY, THE EC STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE PROJECT, REQUESTING THAT THE INFORMATION BE KEPT UP TO DATE AND ADMONISHING PARTICIPANTS TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MAKE PROJECT SUCCESSFUL.

5. NEW SUBGROUP ON VARIABLE LEVIES AND MINIMUM IMPORT PRICING: IN SUPPORTING AUSTRALIAN INTERVENTION IN FAVOR OF ESTABLISHING A SUBGROUP ON THIS SUBJECT, US DEL STATED THAT VL'S AND MIP'S ARE A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ONE WHICH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AN NTM SUBGROUP AT AN EARLY DATE. AS EXPECTED EC RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS AN AREA TO BE MORE APPROPRIATELY CONSIDERED IN GROUP AGRICULTURE.

6. TAX PRACTICES. US DEL DELIVERED STATEMENT ON TAX PRACTICES PER REF C, CITING IMPORTANCE OF VARYING TAX PRACTICES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AS HIGHLIGHTED BY RECENT GATT PANEL FINDINGS, AND PRESSING NEED TO FIND MEANS OF DEALING WITH THIS SITUATION. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING-UP CONTAINS EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO CONCERN EXPRESSED IN U.S. STATEMENT. PER PARA 5, REF C, U.S. DEL SPOKE WITH EC AND JAPAN DELS PRIOR TO MEETING AND EXPLAINED RATIONALE FOR U.S. STATEMENT. THERE WAS NO RESPONSE FROM OTHER DELS.

7. PARENT GROUP AGREED ON MEETING DATES:
CUSTOMS MATTERS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21
SUBSIDIES/CVD FEB 28 - MARCH 2
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT MARCH 3-4
TECHNICAL LEVEL GROUP ON LICENSING MARCH 7-8
QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS MARCH 9-11
STANDARDS WEEK OF MARCH 21
THE NTM PARENT GROUP WILL MEET APRIL 18 PRECEDED BY A 7 PLUS 7 MEETING ON APRIL 1 TO SET MEETING DATES FOR NEXT CYCLE OF NTM MEETINGS. WALKER

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Message Attributes

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